CEOE Safety Alert
Summer Safety Reminders

For those who need to work after hours:
No one is permitted to work alone in a laboratory. If it is necessary to work after hours in
the laboratory, arrangements must be made to work with one additional person for safety
consideration.

Proper laboratory attire:
Sandals, shorts and skirts are not proper laboratory attire. They do not protect individuals
from spills and other mishaps. Please dress for safety, not for summer convenience. You
can always wear pullovers (as medical people wear in operating rooms) over shorts.

No one is to go barefoot in any building, lab or aboard ship. Protect yourself from
sunburn and potential skin cancer (melanoma) by using sun screen. There is a document
available for sunscreen as well as other field pertinent safety considerations on our
College safety committee web site School of Marine Science & Policy - Lewes
(www.ceoe.udel.edu/ehs). Environmental Health & Safety's (www.udel.edu/ehs) website
also has very useful information.

Safety Glasses – eye protection:
EHS staff visits our campus frequently to pick up hazardous waste and they frequently
notice that our students, staff and faculty do not wear safety glasses in the laboratory.
EHS has written a strong letter to us about this in the past. EHS has the option of
performing a safety audit, and if a laboratory is found not in compliance, EHS can close
that laboratory for an indefinite period of time to all activity. We should be smart enough
to wear safety glasses! Even filtering seawater in a glass vessel can be dangerous. If the
glass falls and breaks, a sliver of glass can get into the eye and cause damage! I know of
one instance when an accident occurred as a simple task like this was performed.

Another potential problem is the use of acetone when a person wears plastic contact
lenses. If safety glasses are not used, and acetone gets into the eyes, the contact lens may
fuse to the cornea of the eye, which would require an operation to remove. This could
even occur at home as people use finger nail polish remover containing acetone. Finger
nail polish remover not containing acetone should be purchased.

Thanks for your adherence to our safety policies and procedures. Have a safe and productive
summer!

George W. Luther, III Safety Chair, Lewes